Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14 JUSE-00

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R 071128Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4946

DEA HQS WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL BELEM BY POUCH

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE BY POUCH

AMCONSUL RECIFE BY POUCH

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL SALVADOR BY POUCH

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO BY POUCH

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E.O.11652: GDS LTAGS: SNAR, BR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: DEVELOPMENT IN NARCOTICS ACTION PROGRAM

- 1. NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AND SAIC HAD EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH COLONEL MOACYR COELHO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FEDERAL POLICE. COELHO OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED FEDERALIPOLICE APPROVAL OF ASSIGNMENT OF FOUR ADDITIONAL DEA AGENTS TO BRAZIL. COELHO ADDED THAT HE HAD SUPPORT FROM "HIGHER AUTHORITY" (PRESUMABLY THE MINISTE OF JUSTICE) FOR THE ASSIGNMENT AND DID NOT EXPECT EMBASSY TO HAVE DIFFICULTY IN CONVINCING FOREIGN MINISTRY.
- 2. IT BECAME EVIDENT EARLY IN CONVERSATION THAT
 LOELHO'S PURPOSE FOR MEETING WAS TO PRESENT HIS BILL
 FOR APPROVAL OF NEW DEA AGENTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT
 HE HAD BEEN PROMISED AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOB
 SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES FOR REORGANIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF
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FEDERAL POLICE. IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO MAKE

THAT BODY THE FINEST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN BRAZIL. PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR TRIPLING THE NUMBER OF FEDERAL PLLICE AGENTS OVER THE NEXT THREE TO FIVE YEARS (FROM CURRENT LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY 4,000). HE EXPECTED THE FOUR NEW DEA AGENTS TO ASSUME MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TRANSFORMING THE DPF NARCOTICS DIVISION INTO A MODEL OF ITS KIND IN LATIN AMERICA. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS LIST PRIORITY AREAS IN COELHO'S PROGRAM.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF A NETWORK OF NARCOTICS INFORMANTS IN BRAZIL ESPECIALLY ALONG THE URUGUAYAN-PARAGUAYAN-ARGENTINE AND BOLIVIAN BORDERS ANDIMPROVEMENT OF THE NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY OF THE DPF. RECENT MEETING IN BRASILIA OF DPF REGIONAL DIRECTORS ASSESSED THIS AS NUMBER ONE PRIORITY. SAIC GAVE ASSURANCES THAT THIS PROBLEM WILL BE RESOLVED AFTER THE STAFFING OF THE DEA OFFICES AT SAO PAULO AND RIO DE JANEIRO. WE ARE AWARE THAT PLANNING SECTION OF NARCOTICS DIVISION IS ASSEMBLING LOGISTICAL DATA TO SUPPORT LARGE-SCALE DPF OPERATIONS ALONG SOUTHERN BORDERS.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF NARCOTICS COURSE IN UPGRADED FEDERAL POLICE ACADEMY. COELHO IS PARTICULARLY PROUD OF HIS ARMY SERVICE ACCOMPLISH-MENT IN ESTABLISHING TWO SERVICE SCHOOLS. HE INTENDS TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO REVITALIZE THE MORIBUND DPF ACADEMY. TRAINING OF THE EXPECTED INFLUX OF NEW AGENTS IS HIS FIRST PRIORITY. HOWEVER, HE IS ALSO PROJECTING THEUSE OF THE ACADEMY FOR THE TRAINING OF STATE POLICE OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN POLICE OFFICERS. COELHO IS VERY STRONG ON CONCEPT OF ESTABLISHING SIX-WEEK DEA-TYPE COURSE AS PART OF PERMANENT ACADEMY CURRICULUM. HE BELIEVES THAT TRAINING OF BRAZILIAN AGENTS ABROAD IS FEASIBLE ONLY FOR A LIMITED NUMBER AND EXPENSIVE.IHIS BASIC IDEA IS THAT DEA COURSE BE TRANSLATED INTO PORTUGUESE, INCLUDING TEXTS AND OTHER TEACHING AIDS, DUBBING OF FILMS, ETC. AAA HAND-PICKED DPF TEAM WOULD BE TRAINED BY DEA TO GIVE THE COURSE. COURSE WOULD BE INSTALLED AND MONITORED BY DEA TO INSURE SATISFACTORY STANDARD OF INSTRUCTION. COELHO IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT ON-THE-SPOT BRIEFING AND TOUR OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ACADEMY WITH NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AND SAIC. WILL REPORT FURTHER ON THIS CONCEPT AT THAT TIME.

5. EQUIPMENT. DEA REPRESENTATIVES WOULD WORK WITH DPF PLANNING STAFF TO DETERMINE EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF AUGMENTED NARCOTICS DIVISION. WHILE NO SPECIFIC REQUEST MADE, IT IS EVIDENT THAT COELHO EXPECTS U.S. SUPPORT FOR EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, EMBASSY ALSO HAS

COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE FROM MINISTRY OF PLANNING TO CONTRIBUTE TO DPF PROGRAM NEEDS.

6. WHILE NOT PRESENTED ON SAME BASIS OF PRIORITY ITEMS ABOVE, DISCUSSION ALSO HELD ON POSSIBILITY OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR NARCOTICS SEMINAR IN BRASILIA ALONG LINES OF MULTINATIONAL SEMINAR ON NARCOTICS, NOV. 15-18, 1972 HELD IN BOGOTA. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT VENEZUELA PROPOSED BRAZIL AS THE SITE OF THE NEXT MEETING. OBJECTIVE IS TO INVITE TWO POLICE OFFICERS FROM EACH SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY AND PERHAPS ALSO PANAMA AND MEXICO. PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE HOUSED IN POLICE ACADEMY, STUDENTS' APARTMENTS, AND BOARDED AT ACADEMY DINING ROOM. SUPPORT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND PER DIEM OF FOREIGN PARTICIPANTS AND IS ESTMATED AT \$40,000.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY CONSIDERS COELHO'S PRESENTATION COMBINATION OF GOOD AND NOT-SO-GOOD NEWS. IT IS APPARENT THAT DPF IS GEARING UP FOR MAJOR EFFORT IN NARCOTICS FIELD. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT DPF EXPECTS CONCOMITANT INCREASE IN U.S. SUPPORT FOR THIS EFFORT. IT IS EMBASSY'S PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENL THAT SUPPORT LEVELS PRIVIOUSLY REPORTED WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO SATISFY DPF WITH CAVEAT THAT WE ARE SPEAKING OF MULTI-YEAR PRO-GRAMS WITH NUMBER OF VARIABLES. (SEE FY 76 USAID FIELD PROGRAM AND BUDGET SUBMISSION, JULY 31, 1974.) EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DETERMINATION FROM DEPARTMENT AND DEA AS TO FEASIBILITY OF U.S.SUPPORT FOR ABOVE PROJECTS SO THAT NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AND SAIC WILL KNOW WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH DISCUSSION AND PLANNING OF PROPOSALS IN DETAIL OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO TURN DPF OFF. UNDERSTANDABLY, WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY COELHO'S ENTHUSIASM, COOPERATION AND DRIVE AND WISH TO CAPITALIZE CONFIDENTIAL

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ON PRESENT MOMENTUM. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT COELHO IS SHREWD, CAPABLE ADMINISTRATOR AND CANNOT BE PUT OFF FOR VERY LONG WITH RHETORIC. IN ADDITION, COELHO IS EXPECTD TO BE CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. IN SHORT, WE ARE AT THE FISH OR CUT BAIT STAGE OF THE BRAZILIAN NARCOTICS PROGRAM. CRIMMINS

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